GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TEXTILES
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:332
ANSWERED ON:01.03.2002
DECLINE IN EXPORT OF SILK GARMENTS
T.T.V. DHINAKARAN

Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether the exports of Indian silk garments have shown a declining trend during the last two years;

(b) if so, the details thereof, year-wise;

(c) the steps taken to promote export of silk garments; and

(d) whether the government have any plan to diversify in order to protect domestic industry?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE FOR TEXTILES (SHRI V. DHANANJAYA KUMAR)

(a) & (b) No Sir. The exports of Silk Readymade Garments have grown during the last two years.However, during the current year exports of Silk Readymade Garments have shown a declining trend till end of October 2001, due mainly because of the recessionary trend in the international market. The details of silk garments exported during the last two years is as under:-

(Rs. In crores)

Item of Export Year	1999-2000	2000-2001	2001-2002 (upto October, 01)
Silk Readymade Garments	538.32	852.4	342.23

(c)&(d) The Government is taking several steps to increase the exports of silk products -

(i) The Government is providing assistance to the Indian Silk Export Promotion Council, Mumbai for undertaking various export promotion activities such as participation in international fairs, organizing generic promotion stalls in domestic fairs like TexStyles India, Publicity in foreign trade magazines, publication of magazine `Silk India` and colour forecast card for domestic silk manufacturers, dissemination of overseas trade information among exporters, etc.

(ii) Government has rationalized value addition/Input-output norms specified under the EXIM Policy extended to exporters, the facility of duty free import of raw material under the Advance Licensing Scheme, import of capital goods at concessional rate of duty for export products.

(iii) For Technological up-gradation of the industry loan at 5% point less than applicable rate, under the Technological Up-gradation Fund Scheme for the Textiles sector is available inter alia to the silk sector.

(iv) Govt. have initiated a production programme of high quality of bivoltine silk to improve quality of Indian silk to international standards and its productivity & cost competitiveness. Programmes are being implemented to improve technologies at all stages of the process of silk development, and diversify products with inputs for improvement of looms and designs such that they may expand the export share of the country.

(v) Import of raw silk has been liberalized by being brought under OGL, which has increased availability of good quality silk.